

CONSERVATION COMMISSION MINUTES

June 3, 2020

5:15 P.M.

Meeting held via Zoom Conference

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ms. Payne, Ms. Frank

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. O'Hazo, Ms. Branson, and Ms. Dupuis

ALTERNATES PRESENT: Ms. Rawson

ALTERNATES ABSENT: Mr. Conroy

PUBLIC PRESENT: Ms. Zukauskas, Ms. Larson and Mr. Charles

CLERK: Ms. Gallagher

With a quorum present, Ms. Payne called the meeting to order at 5:18 p.m. and seated Ms. Payne, Ms. Frank, and Ms. Rawson for Ms. Dupuis.

Request from HVA for support letter for "Fish Passage Restoration in Kirby Brook": 6:20

Ms. Larson is a Conservation Projects Manager with Housatonic Valley Association, HVA. Ms. Larson asked the Commission to write a letter of support for the, Fish Passage Restoration in Kirby Brook. Ms. Larson explained to the Commission how the project would open up about 1.8 miles of the brook to fish. There is a culvert at the stream, which is functioning, but does not allow for a smooth fish passage. The restoration project would mimic a natural step pool system. A retro fit is more cost effective and would create step pools so the fish could travel through. They are in communication with Trout Unlimited and Trout Scape River Restoration, whom are working on proposals. HVA and the Town of Washington have partnered for this project and the Town of Washington applied for a grant yesterday. HVA has also applied for grants to help facilitate this project. Ms. Payne asked Ms. Larson for a copy of the Long Island Futures Fund grant that submitted by the Town of Washington.

Motion: To approve the Conservation Commission to send a letter of support, for the Fish Passage Restoration in Kirby Brook, by Ms. Frank seconded by Ms. Rawson passed 3-0 vote.

Consideration of Minutes: 18:03

The commission members reviewed the minutes from the May 6, 2020 meeting.

Motion: *To approve the minutes of the May 6, 2020 meeting as written by Ms. Frank
Seconded by Ms. Rawson passed 3-0 vote.*

Buffum Road Pool: 18:30

Ms. Payne informed the Commission that Litchfield County Pools contacted her requesting a letter from
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the Conservation Commission because there is a Conservation easement on the property at 43 Buffum Road. Litchfield County Pools submitted a proposed site plan and the pool installation does not impact the Conservation Easement so Ms. Payne wrote a letter stating there is not impact.

New Preston Falls Project: 19:13

The Bridge has been removed and the signs were taken down, Ms. Payne sent an email showing the new signs that will be put up after the fencing is installed, Mr. Brinton, First Selectmen, is contacting the State DOT about the crumbing curbing at the site. If possible, they would like the curbing fixed around the time the fence is installed. The site was mowed and looks wonderful.

The Inland/Wetlands approved the application that was submitted by Ms. Branson. This was for removing invasive plants, remove dead trees, stabilize slope, install fence, mow grass regularly, and monitor Historic Mill.

School Street and River Walk Maintenance: 21:46

Ms. Payne has not been able to schedule a site visit with Mr. Brinton, to review the work that has been done to the site.

Western CT Clean Air Action Report: 22:02

Ms. Frank reported that WCCAA has hired an environmental engineer at UConn, Dr. Wagstrom, to monitor the data coming from our seven monitors in western Connecticut. The Covid 19 virus has added to the complexity of the data as there is less traffic. It will take at least another year to collect meaningful data, patience.

Solar: 24:37

This item is on hold

LID with Zoning:

This item is on hold.

Alternate Vacancy: 24:50

Ms. Payne asked the Commission to think about possible candidates for the opening, this will be addressed at another meeting.

Cell Tower/ choice of site in Kent: 24:50

There are no new updates.

Other Business: 25:15

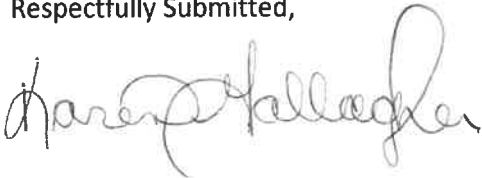
Ms. Payne receive some information regarding the dangers of 5G.
Ms. Payne will send the information to the Commissioners regarding the 5G summit.

Mr. Charles whom joined the meeting late asked about the Kirby Brook fish Passage.
Ms. Payne asked him to contact Ms. Larson directly to answer his questions.

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 5:38 p.m. by Ms. Payne seconded by
Ms. Frank passed 3-0 vote.

The next Conservation Commission meeting is July 1, 2020 at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Karen Gallagher".

Karen Gallagher
Conservation Commission Clerk
06-08-2020